

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **HB 2368 - SB 2651**

February 25, 2000

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Enacts The Railroad Crossing Safety Act of 2000 which:

- Requires local governments to comply with the requirements of installing protective warning devices or the state can access the local government's share of state-shared taxes to pay for such installation.
- Requires the Department of Transportation to prepare an annual report describing the number of accidents and the number of deaths attributed to railroad crossing collisions in the prior calendar year. The report must be delivered to the Speakers of the Senate and the House of Representatives and to each member of the Senate and House Transportation Committees.
- Directs the Department of Transportation to prepare an annual report describing the most dangerous railroad crossings in the state and listing the 100 most dangerous railroad crossings by city and by county. The report shall be submitted to each newspaper of general circulation in the state.
- Provides an effective date of July 1, 2000.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant/Highway Fund**

**Other Fiscal Impact - To the extent a local government failed to provide funding for a crossing upgrade, included in the list of upgrades for that year, a portion of their state-shared taxes could be diverted to accomplish this purpose.**

Estimate assumes:

- Based on information provided by the Department of Transportation, all federal funds currently available for railroad-crossing upgrades are expended annually.
- Currently approximately 32 crossings are upgraded annually at a cost of approximately \$100,000 per crossing.
- Currently there are approximately 1,253 crossings in the state that are passive devices.
- Under existing law, active system crossing installation costs are paid one-third by the federal government upon notification of matching funds, one-third by the state and one-third by the local government.

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- Safety reports required by the bill are currently being prepared and submitted to the federal government in order to receive federal matching funds.
- An increase in state expenditures that can be absorbed in the agency's budget is estimated based on the following items:
  - To copy the reports and submit them to the Speakers of the Senate and the House of Representatives and members of the Senate and House Transportation Committees.
  - Submit copies of the report to each newspaper of general circulation in the state.

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James A. Davenport". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director